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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, VAN KIM T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2661

DATE MAILED: 08/12/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/740,184

Applicant(s)

CHERUKURI, RAVIKRISHNA

Examiner

Van Kim T. Nguyen

Art Unit

2661

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 December 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13, 17-19 and 23-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 December 2000 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

### **DETAILED ACTION**

This Office Action is responsive to communications filed on December 18, 2000.

#### ***Drawings***

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference characters not mentioned in the description: Figure 4: Memory Unit 310- 314.

Corrected drawing sheets, or amendment to the specification to add the reference characters in the description, are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action.

The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-10, 17-19, and 23-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Atkinson et al (US 6,381,239).

Regarding claims 1, 7, 17, 23, 29, and 33, as shown in Figures 1-8, Atkinson discloses a method comprising storing a number of sets of static data (boot programs, or tables and software required for call processing) across more than one memory unit of at least two memory units (121, 125 or 123, 127; col. 17: line 57 – col. 18: line 12); and storing a number of sets of dynamic data (abbreviated database) within a single memory unit (15; col. 18: lines 12-39), such that a processing unit (12, 16) can read the set of static data from any of the at least two memory units (cols. 17-25, esp. col. 17: lines 32-40 and 62-67).

Regarding claims 2, 8, 18, 24, 30, and 34, Atkinson also discloses the number of sets of the static data includes a forwarding table for data transmission (col. 18: lines 4-12).

Regarding claims 3, 9, 19, 25, 31, and 35, Atkinson also discloses the number of sets of dynamic data includes data packets (frames; col. 1: lines 22-56) to be processed by a processing unit (12, 16, 124) within a network element (col. 17: lines 32-57, and col. 18: lines 37-39).

Regarding claims 4 and 26, Atkinson also discloses a first data packet of the data packets (information relating to a trunk, line, etc.) is stored across more than one of the number of sets of dynamic data (122, 126, or a common database on a separate card, or external computer; col. 18: lines 31-34) .

Regarding claim 5 and 27, Atkinson also discloses storing a pointer to a first set of dynamic data (col. 18: lines 25-30).

Regarding claims 6, 10, 28, and 32, Atkinson also discloses storing the set of static data (software for initializing, boot program) across each of the at least two memory units (col. 17: line 62 – col. 18: line 1).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Totani et al (US 5,175,842).

Regarding claim 11, Totani discloses a method of accessing a set of data from a number of memory units comprising: reading the set of data from a single memory unit (5 or 6) from the number of memory units (3, 5, 6), upon determining whether the set of data is dynamic (frequently-accessed or at-least-once accessed data); and reading the set of data from any of the number of memory units (3), upon determining that the set of data is static (data).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Totani et al (US 5,175,842), as applied to claim 11 above, in view of Atkinson et al (US 6,381,239).

Totani discloses a method of accessing a set of data from a number of memory unit with all the limitation recited in claim 11. However, Totani does not explicitly call for the set of static data including a forwarding table, and the set of dynamic data including data packets processed by a processing unit within a network element.

As shown in Figures 1-8, Atkinson discloses the number of sets of the static data includes a forwarding table for data transmission (col. 18: lines 4-12).

Atkinson also discloses the number of sets of dynamic data includes data packets (frames; col. 1: lines 22-56) to be processed by a processing unit (12, 16, 124) within a network element (col. 17: lines 32-57, and col. 18: lines 37-39).

Since it is highly desirable to enhance the flexibility and expandability of telephone switches, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize Totani's method of accessing a set of data from a number of memory unit in Atkinson's communication system, motivated by the needs of improving communications between facilities of telephone switches.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 14-16, 21-22, and 36-38 are allowed.

Claim 20 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims are considered allowable when reading the claims none of the references of record alone or in combination, in light of the specification, disclose or suggest the combination limitations specified in the independent claims including reading the set of data from a second memory unit, upon determining that the first memory unit is not accessible and the second memory unit is accessible; reading the set of data from a third memory unit from the number of memory unit, upon determining that the first memory unit and the second memory unit are not

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accessible and the third memory unit is accessible; and reading the set of data from a fourth memory unit from the number of memory unit, upon determining that the first memory unit, the second memory unit and the third memory unit are not accessible and the fourth memory unit is accessible.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Conley et al (US 6,760,255); Kessler (US 6,567,900); Lee et al (US 6,542,956); Lakhani et al (US 6,507,885); Rao (US 6,504,785); Ramagopal et al (US 6,446,181); Asoh (US 6,415,350); Noonan (US 6,373,849); Subegawa (US 5,860,083); Tamada et al (US 5,729,717); Kelley et al (US 5,659,695).

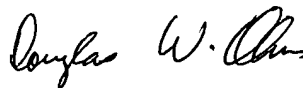
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Van Kim T. Nguyen whose telephone number is 703-305-7692. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Douglas W. Olms can be reached on 703-305-4703. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

vkn



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